

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-12

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R 121310Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4573

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION NATO

CINCEUR

USDOCOSOUTH

USDOCOLANDSOUTHEAST

USNMR SHAPE

CINCUSNAVEUR

CINCUSAFE-IN

CINCUSAFE-INCFR

HQ USEUCOM

CINCUSAREUR

COMSIXTHFLT

FOSIF ROTA

UNCLAS ANKARA 6187

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UNSC, TU, GR

SUBJECT: CAGLAYANGIL AND ECEVIT COMMENT ON THE AEGEAN
DISPUTE

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1. FONMIN CAGLAYANGIL TOLD REPORTES AUGUST 12 BEFORE

DEPARTING FROM ANKARA FOR THE SECURITY COUNCIL SESSION ON THE AEGEAN THAT GREECE'S APPLICATION TO THE SC WAS "VOID" OF ANY LEGAL FOUNDATION. HE SAID THAT THE GOT WAS "METICULOUSLY" DEFENDING TURKISH RIGHTS AND WOULD "CONTINUE TO OVERCOME" OBSTACLES PLACED IN THE WAY OF CONDUCTING RESEARCH IN THE AEGEAN.

2. ON AUGUST 11N AFTER MEETING WITH GEN. SANCAR (CHIEF OF THE TURKISH GENERAL STAFF), CAGLAYANGIL TOLD REPORTERS THAT IT WAS TURKEY'S "INDISPUTABLE RIGHT" TO CONDUCT SEISMIC SURVEYS OUTSIDE OF GREEK-TERRITORIAL WATERS, AND THE PROTECTION OF THOSE RIGHTS WAS THE "RESPONSIBILITY OF THE TURKISH ARMED FORCES." CAGLAYANGIL STATED THAT THE "LEGAL FOUNDATION OF THE TURKISH VIEWS WILL BECOME EVIDENT AT THE U.N." CAGLAYANGIL WARNED THAT FURTHER GREEK HARRASSMENT OF THE SISMİK, SUCH AS "GREEK AIRPLANES AND SHIPS WHICH HAVE COME WITHIN 150 METERS" OF THE SISMİK, WOULD CALL FORTH "SERIOUS RETALIATION". (TURKISH TELEVISION NEWS AUGUST 11 SHOWED PICTURES OF THE SISMİK BEING ESCORTED BY A GREEK CORVETTE AND AN AIRCRAFT.) CONCERNING THE GREEK UNILATERAL APPLICATION TO THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE (ICJ), CAGLAYANGIL QUESTIONED WHETHER THE ICJ WOULD BE ABLE TO TAKE A DECISION "WHEN THE NATURE OF THE CONFLICT BETWEEN THE TWO STATES IS NOT DEFINED." HE ALSO STATED THAT THE GOT WOULD NOT REGARD ICJ DECISION AS BINDING ON TURKEY.

3. REPUBLICAN PEOPLE'S PARTY (RPP) CHAIRMAN ECEVIT RESUMED HIS ATTACK ON GOT AEGEAN POLICIES AT A NEWS CONFERENCE AUGUST 11. ECEVIT SAID THAT IN 1974 WHEN HIS GOVERNMENT HAD SENT THE OCEANOGRAPHIC SHIP CANDARLI INTO THE AEGEAN, "WE OFFICIALLY LAID CLAIM TO THE CONTINENTAL SHELF WHERE THIS SHIP WAS MAKING SOUNDINGS. THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT DOES NOT EVEN PUT FORWARD SUCH A CLAIM. THEREFORE, IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO UNDERSTAND THE GREEK REACTION AND THEIR GOING SO FAR AS TO THREATEN WAR." ECEVIT SAID THE RPP AND THE NATION WOULD SUPPORT THE GOVERNMENT IF IT TOOK A HARDLINE IN THE AEGEAN. HE CALLED ON THE GOT TO 1) ANNOUNCE THAT THE SISMİK'S ACTIVITIES WERE RELATED TO TURKISH CONTINENTAL SHELF CLAIMS, 2) ANNOUNCE THE AREAS CLAIMED BY TURKEY AS ITS CONTINENTAL SHELF, 3) DENY THE VALIDITY OF A MAP PUBLISHED IN THE UNCLASSIFIED

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TURKISH PRESS SUPPOSEDLY REPRESENTING THE AREAS WHERE TURKEY HAD A CONTINENTAL SHELF, 4) REFRAIN FROM THE "EXCESS GENEROSITY" OF USING TERMS SUCH AS "HIGH SEAS" OR "INTERNATIONAL WATERS" IN DISCUSSING WATERS OVER THE TURKISH AEGEAN CONTINENTAL SHELF, 5) RE-LEGISLATE THE ENABLING ACT GRANTING THE GOT THE RIGHT TO "DECREE" AREAS AS BEING PART OF THE TURKISH CONTINENTAL SHELF AND 6) HAVE THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL MEET WITH EXPERTS AND OFFICIALS FROM VARIOUS

MINISTRIES TO "ARRIVE AT A SOUNDER UNDERSTANDING OF
IMPORTANT CONCEPTS, DEFINITIONS AND THE DEMARCATION OF THE
AEGEAN SEABED."
MACOMBER

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